

RECORDS AND PROCEEDINGS
Pocahontas Public Schools
Regular Board Meeting
January 20, 2020

Board Members Present: Dr. Mike Davis, DVM, President; Jim Toney, Vice President;
Karen Baltz, Secretary; Judy McClain, and Gary Cole

Others Present: Jerry Martens, Superintendent; Lesa Grooms, Assistant Superintendent; Todd Welch, Architect; Nabholz Team; Lori and Joe Steimel, Visitors; Brandon Smith, Press

Item 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the junior high library. All board members were present.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Karen Baltz, seconded by Jim Toney, the board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting on December 16, 2019.

Item 3: Approval of Financial Statements

On a motion by Judy McClain, seconded by Karen Baltz, the board voted 5-0 to approve the financial statements for the Pocahontas School District for the month of December 2019.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item 4: Construction Updates

Nathan Anthony from Nabholz Construction provided the board updates on the Elementary Construction Project. The board reviewed aerial photos from January 14, 2020. The preschool part of project is enclosed at this point. Section C has cafeteria and equipment in it. Areas G and H should be completed by mid-February. The project is still on schedule to open in December 2020.

The high school project was discussed. The board will meet in a week or two to discuss the project further.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 5: DOT Drug and Alcohol Use and Testing Policy

On a motion by Gary Cole, seconded by Jim Toney, the board voted 5-0 to approve the new DOT Drug and Alcohol Use and Testing Policy for bus drivers.

The new policy involves checking drivers' license for drug or alcohol violations on their licenses. The cost is \$2.25 per driver twice a year through our current drug testing company, Med Test.

Item 6: Active Duty Military and Veterans Admission to Athletic School Events

On a motion by Judy McClain, seconded by Gary Cole, the board voted 5-0 to approve free admission for active duty military and veterans to all home athletic events.

Item 7: Annual Training Hours Report to the Board

Superintendent, Jerry Martens, presented the board training report required by Act 589 of 2017. There were no compliance issues

On a motion by Karen Baltz, seconded by Jim Toney, the board voted 5-0 to approve the report.

Item 8: Resignations

On a motion by Gary Cole, seconded by Judy McClain, the board voted 5-0 to accept the following resignations:

- Patricia Neece – Jr. High Study Hall Paraprofessional
- Michael McCurry – High School Principal

Item 9: Student Transfers

On a motion by Jim Toney, seconded by Judy McClain, the board voted 5-0 to approve the following legal transfer requests:

NAME	AGE	GRADE	FROM	TO
Dakota Tanner	13	8	Pocahontas	Sloan-Hendrix
Zoey Farrell	13	6	Pocahontas	Walnut Ridge
Riley Farrell	10	4	Pocahontas	Walnut Ridge
Clayton Holt	11	6	Pocahontas	Maynard
Savannah Thompson	13	8	Maynard	Pocahontas
Anthony Barber	14	8	Maynard	Pocahontas

Item 10: Employment/Personnel

On a motion by Gary Cole, seconded by Jim Toney, the board voted 5-0 to enter into executive session for the purpose of employment and/or personnel discussion.


On a motion by Karen Baltz, seconded by Jim Toney, the board voted 5-0 to employ Christy Melton as a cafeteria employee for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

On a motion by Gary Cole, seconded by Jim Toney, the board voted 5-0 to approve the transfer request of Lesa Grooms to return to High School Principal.

On a motion by Gary Cole, seconded by Jim Toney, the board voted 5-0 to extend the contract of Superintendent, Jerry Martens, through June 30, 2022 as well as increase the salary by 2%, beginning July 1, 2020.

OTHER

1. The date for the next school board meeting was set for February 24, 2020 at 7 pm. The original meeting is being rescheduled due to President's Day and the Sr. High District Basketball Tournament.
2. Superintendent, Jerry Martens, reported the district enrollment to be 2055 which compares to 2059 for last month and 2045 at this time last year.
3. Jr. High District Basketball Tournament is the week of February 10-15 at Brookland.
4. Sr. High District Basketball Tournament is the week of February 17-22 at Batesville Southside.



Dr. Michael Davis, President



Karen Baltz, Secretary